

Commanding Officer's Family Advocacy Policy Statement

Being a **2d LAAD ambassador** starts with your family. One day all of us will leave the Corps - whether it be administrative, EAS or retirement. Whatever career path you navigate, it is your family that will endure. It is my prayer that, as a member of the 2d LAAD Battalion family, we will honor our commitments to each other at work and at home. Whether it be a spouse, children, parents or a significant other, they are integral to the cohesiveness and brotherhood of 2d LAAD Marines.

Although there will be peaks and valleys in every relationship, nothing has a more chilling effect upon our unit readiness than domestic violence. Accordingly, I charge leaders at all levels to aggressively take the appropriate steps to prevent domestic violence, protect victims, and hold those who commit domestic violence accountable. This command will operate an effective Family Advocacy Program (FAP). All incidents or abusive behavior shall be reported to the Family Advocacy Officer and violators will be held accountable for their actions.

The FAP and the victim advocates are our primary tools to intervene with offenders to stop the violence. FAP and the victim advocate provide support for victims. Early intervention is critical. Collectively, we will ensure that every report of domestic violence is investigated and that victims are afforded a safe environment. Education is often the key to fighting domestic violence. All members and family of the Bn must be made aware of locally available resources to prevent domestic violence, procedures for responding to domestic violence and the support services provided through family advocacy.

Since one's actions impact the entire LAAD Bn family, let's strive to Just Do Right!

JOEL A. BURDETTE

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Commanding

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